K. Great-Britain. — 816. m. 7.
Commons, H. of 113.

94

REASONS

HUMBLY OFFERED

Againſt the BILL *for* Repair *of* DOVER PEER.

THE Navigation of *Great Britain*, which imploys great Numbers of Sailors neceſſary for the Defence of the Kingdom, and Benefit of Commerce, now labours under great Difficulties; and therefore it is humbly hoped may very well deſerve the Conſideration of the Legiſlature: more-eſpecially at this Time, when ſeveral Princes of *Europe* are endeavouring to allure our Seamen from us.

The ſeveral petty Port-Charges and Fees, now paid to Officers at *London* for a Ship of 250 Tons, is not leſs than 30 *l. Sterling* each Voyage, and every Ship of that Burthen pays 6 *l.* 5 *s.* at leaſt, once a Year, towards the Repair of *Dover Peer*, although it is very ſeldom or never, that ſhe can receive any Benefit thereby: For the Mouth of the *Peer* is but One hundred Foot broad, and the Channel much narrower, occaſion'd by a Lodgment of Stones that often ſhifts, and at the *Peer*'s Head the Tide runs ſtrong directly croſs it; which even in moderate Weather, makes it not only difficult, but dangerous, to get in, ſeveral having been loſt in the Attempt.

Whenever the Wind blows hard from the Sea, that is, from the South-Eaſt to the South-Weſt, the Entrance of the *Peer* is ſo choaked and fill'd up with ſmall Stones waſh'd in, that very often, at High Water, a Victualling Hoy of 30 Tons cannot go out, nor the Packet-Boats get in; ſo conſequently, can be of no Benefit to Shipping in Diſtreſs and bad Weather; as was plainly made appear before the Honourable Committee.

This *Peer* was formerly kept in Repair by the Rents and Revenues of the Town and Trade of *Dover*, and then as capable of receiving Shipping: and altho' upwards of Twenty Thouſand Pounds hath been raiſed upon the Navigation and Trade of this Kingdom, yet it is not in any reſpect better, than before the late Acts made for raiſing the Duty.

Theſe Conſiderations are humbly ſubmitted: However, if it ſhould nevertheleſs be the Opinion of this Honourable Houſe, that the keeping up the *Peer* is neceſſary for the Improvement of the Town of *Dover*, it is hoped, that it will not be thought reaſonable to raiſe Money on ſuch Ships as do not receive any Benefit thereby; but from ſuch only as ſhall enter that Port.

REASONS

Humbly Offered

Againſt the BILL *for* Repair *of* DOVER Peer.